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L4: Entry 6 of 11 File: USPT Nov 27, 2001

US-PAT-NO: 6323894
DOCUMENT-IDENTIFIER: US 6323894 B1
**** See image for Certificate of Correction ****

TITLE: Commercial product routing system with video vending capability

DATE-ISSUED: November 27, 2001

INVENTOR-INFORMATION:

NAME	CITY	STATE	ZIP CODE	COUNTRY
Katz; Ronald A.	Los Angeles	CA		

ASSIGNEE-INFORMATION:

NAME	CITY	STATE	ZIP CODE	COUNTRY	TYPE CODE
Telebuyer, LLC	Los Angeles	CA			02

APPL-NO: 08/ 189405 [PALM]
DATE FILED: January 27, 1994

PARENT-CASE:
CROSS REFERENCE TO RELATED APPLICATIONS This application is a continuation-in-part of application Ser. No. 08/154,313, entitled "SCHEDULING AND PROCESSING SYSTEM FOR TELEPHONE VIDEO COMMUNICATION" and filed on Nov. 17, 1993, U.S. Pat. No. 5,495,284 which is a continuation-in-part application of application Ser. No. 08/067,783 ABN, entitled "VIDEOPHONE SYSTEM FOR SCRUTINY MONITORING WITH COMPUTER CONTROL" and filed on May 25, 1993, which is a continuation-in-part application of application Ser. No. 08/031,235, entitled "VIDEOPHONE SYSTEM FOR SCRUTINY MONITORING WITH COMPUTER CONTROL" and filed on Mar. 12, 1993 U.S. Pat. No. 5,412,708. The subject matter in all the above-identified co-pending and commonly owned applications is incorporated herein by reference.

INT-CL: [07] H04 M 11/00

US-CL-ISSUED: 348/15; 379/93.12, 379/93.25, 705/27
US-CL-CURRENT: 348/14.08; 379/93.12, 379/93.25, 705/27

FIELD-OF-SEARCH: 348/14, 348/15, 348/16, 348/17, 348/18, 348/19, 379/96, 379/94, 379/97, 379/98, 379/93, 379/93.21, 379/93.17, 379/93.12, 379/93.14, 379/93.01, 379/202, 379/204, 379/205, 370/62, 705/26, 705/27, 705/35-38

PRIOR-ART-DISCLOSED:

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Search Selected | Search ALL | Clear

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ART-UNIT: 263

PRIMARY-EXAMINER: Woo; Stella

ATTY-AGENT-FIRM: Lyon & Lyon LLP

ABSTRACT:

A traffic control system selectively interfaces members of plural groups, as buyer groups and vendor groups, for video communication through a dial-up telephone system, for analyzing and compiling data, scheduling appointments, implementing conferences, consummating sales and the like. The traffick-control system comprises a telephonic interface apparatus for interfacing remote telephonic terminals of the dial-up telephone system identified with the members of plural groups, a video recording unit for recording and playing video transcriptions, a storage memory for storing data on the members, including telephonic terminal numbers and area-of-interest codes and a control computer to selectively interconnect the video recording unit with the remote telephone terminals through the telephonic interface apparatus to record and receive video communication.

195 Claims, 10 Drawing figures

L4: Entry 7 of 11 File: USPT Oct 31, 2000

DOCUMENT-IDENTIFIER: US 6141653 A
**** See image for Certificate of Correction ****
TITLE: System for interative, multivariate negotiations over a network

Abstract Text (1):
A multivariate negotiations engine for iterative bargaining which: enables a sponsor to create and administer a community between participants such as buyers and sellers having similar interests; allows a buyer/participant to search and evaluate seller information, propose and negotiate orders and counteroffers that include all desired terms, request sample quantities, and track activity; allows a seller/participant to use remote authoring templates to create a complete Website for immediate integration and activation in the community, to evaluate proposed buyer orders and counteroffers, and to negotiate multiple variables such as prices, terms, conditions etc., iteratively with a buyer. The system provides secure databases, search engines, and other tools for use by the sponsor, which enable the sponsor to define the terms of community participation, establish standards, help promote the visibility of participating companies, monitor activity, collect fees, and promote successes. All this is done through a multivariate negotiations engine system operated at the system provider's Internet site, thus requiring no additional software at the sponsors', or participant sellers', or buyer's sites. This also allows buyers and sellers to use and negotiate payment options and methods that are accepted internationally. The system maintains internal databases that contain the history of all transactions in each community, so that sponsors, buyers and sellers may retrieve appropriate records to document each stage of interaction and negotiation. Documents are created by the system during the negotiation process.

Application Filing Date (1):
19981116

Brief Summary Text (44):
In many corporations, the selection of a new supplier for production purchases usually involves the creation of a team from purchasing , engineering, and manufacturing to evaluate all potential sellers. The team usually flies to potential vendor sites to evaluate capabilities and production facilities, obtain samples, and then return home to evaluate the samples.

Brief Summary Text (48):
Obtaining samples from vendors known to the production buyer is significant in itself, as seen above. However, in today's international trade, the overwhelming majority of potential buyers and sellers are not aware of each other's existence. Yet international trade is increasing by double

Brief Summary Text (49):
digit numbers each year, so an obvious need exists for more capability. Many countries are taking advantage of the "leapfrog" effect by using the Internet and the latest in information technology (IT) to build instant infrastructures for competing in international commerce. Some countries and trade regions have set up inspection services for potential outside buyers, so that a buyer can obtain an

independent assessment of a particular vendor's production facilities from such services. This saves some time and travel expense. However, it still does not provide a buying team with samples for evaluation. With current Internet commerce systems there is no effective way to order such samples. By the time terms and conditions for a sample order have been negotiated manually at such distances, the samples are not likely to be relevant any longer to the buyer company's development goals.

Brief Summary Text (62):
Thus, most existing electronic commerce sites are designed to work with existing proprietary banking networks such as the United States VISA.TM. and MC MASTERCARD.TM. real-time card authorization and processing interbanking systems. As noted above, these are known as SWIFT-compatible private networks which use 128 key encryption for security. This often limits a buyer or seller's market potential unnecessarily. Since many countries do not have banking systems comparable to the SWIFT interbanking system, payments in such countries may only be made by manually negotiated letters of credit and so on. It can take from 4-6 weeks simply to negotiate the terms of a letter of credit, when using the same manual techniques of phone calls and fax machines. In a global economy, when manufacturers in one country may want to source parts and components from the Pacific rim, sell them in the United States, Europe or South America, or Pacific Rim, a system that does not address the complexities of international purchasing is very limiting.

Brief Summary Text (79):
These and other objects are achieved by a multivariate negotiations engine for iterative bargaining which: enables a sponsor to create and administer a community between participants such as buyers and sellers having similar interests; allows a buyer/participant to search and evaluate seller information, propose and negotiate orders and counteroffers that include all desired terms, request sample quantities, and track activity; allows a seller/participant to use remote authoring templates to create a complete Website for immediate integration and activation in the community, to evaluate proposed buyer orders and counteroffers, and to negotiate multiple variables such as prices, terms, conditions etc., iteratively with a buyer. The system provides secure databases, search engines, and other tools for use by the sponsor, which enable the sponsor to define the terms of community participation, establish standards, help promote the visibility of participating companies, monitor activity, collect fees, and promote successes. All this is done through a multivariate negotiations engine system operated at the system provider's Internet site, thus requiring no additional software at the sponsors', or participant sellers', or buyer's sites. This also allows buyers and sellers to use and negotiate payment options and methods that are accepted internationally. The system maintains internal databases that contain the history of all transactions in each community, so that sponsors, buyers and sellers may retrieve appropriate records to document each stage of interaction and negotiation. Documents are created by the system during the negotiation process.

Detailed Description Text (17):
The sponsor processes of FIG. 1g include maintaining databases, registering community and seller domain names, and submitting Web uniform resource locators (URLs) to multiple search engines so that both the community Website and each seller Website within it can be found by search engines such as Compaq's ALTAVISTA.TM. among others. Sponsor 06 also monitors activity, collects fees, establishes standards or rules (or both) for the community, and promotes successes. Once a deal is concluded it is archived 68, by multivariate negotiations engine 212 on behalf of seller. The present invention also allows the collection and analysis of direct e-mail demographic information, such as company name, title and location. This data helps the present invention screen out frivolous or fraudulent inquirers. For example, a high school student attempting to propose an order might be intercepted when the present invention determines that no company name or title has been provided and no other authorization for such a request has been provided for.

Detailed Description Text (20):
Still in FIG. 1k, participant functions for buyer participants 08grpb could be as simple as proposals 214-10. A buyer might either propose negotiations of order terms based on a seller's catalog and price lists or send out a request for proposal (RFP) to all or some of the seller's in the community, or send out a request for a quote (RFQ) to all or some of the sellers in a community, asking sellers to respond with the best, most comprehensive terms each seller can offer. The present invention also provides prospective buyers with the ability to make e-mail inquiries through the system, which are logged by the system.

Detailed Description Text (37):
FIG. 1i is a flow diagram of the steps of iterative multivariate negotiations engine 212 of the present invention. At step 212-02 an initializing event occurs, such as participant 08 proposing terms to another participant on an initiating terminal (or desktop computer or workstation, etc.) over the Internet 04 through multivariate negotiations engine system 02, thereby creating a communications path which is ultimately directed by multivariate negotiations engine system 02 over the Internet 04 to the destination terminal at which the selected other participant 08 is active. The terms could be the placement of an order from a buyer, or a seller's response to a general request for proposal (RFP), and so on. In initializing step 212-02 multivariate negotiations engine 212 recognizes that these two participants are negotiators and also determines that a deciding entity has been appointed either by the sponsor or by the rules established for this community.

Detailed Description Text (46):
With reference now to FIG. 1e, the steps of mutlivariate negotiations engine 212 are shown. While a sponsor 06, is desirable, multivariate negotiations engine 212 can operate with only a deciding entity DE and another initiating entity OE. If this is a commerce community, deciding entity DE is usually the seller and the other initiating entity OE is usually the buyer. However, even in this situation, other designations are possible. For example, if the buyer is sending out a request for proposal to which sellers must reply and negotiate, then the buyer may be the deciding entity and the seller(s) the other negotiating entity. For many master agreements or open to buy agreements, both negotiating partes may be deciding negotiating entities.

Detailed Description Text (54):
One of the paradoxes of international trade now is that as today's global economy expands exponentially the number of potential buyers and sellers, it becomes correspondingly difficult for them to find each other and negotiate agreements. The present invention addresses this in a number of ways. First, a sponsored community increases the visibility of member companies which are sellers. The methods described below in connection with functions to promote visibility for the sponsored community and its members significantly increase the likelihood that a buyer, searching for a new supplier over the Internet will find members of such sponsored communities and that they will be more likely to meet the buyer's needs. For example, trade development communities can be established using the present invention, including as sellers only those that meet the qualifications outlined by the sponsor. This simplifies a prospective buyer's search and evaluation task significantly. The sample order quantity purchasing features (also described in more detail below) of the present invention, significantly reduce the time it takes for a buyer to qualify a new supplier or seller anywhere in the world.

Detailed Description Text (84):
FIG. 28 illustrates this in simple overview format. As seen in FIG. 28, buyer terms BT1 include an order for 10,000 widgets, etc, requesting a 4-year warranty on parts and that buyer's performance or payment be excused for acts of God which are here proposed to include strikes and government actions. Using the present invention, these terms are stored for review by the seller. Seller terms ST1 indicate the

seller would prefer to offer only a 6 month warranty on parts and would not include strikes or government actions under the heading of acts of God which would excuse the buyer from paying for the goods. The buyer responds with proposed buyer terms 2, BT2, which ask for a 1 year warranty and the inclusion of government actions as an act of God.

Detailed Description Text (95):
Turning now to FIG. 1f, databases 225 as they might be logically depicted for a commercial sponsored community CC are shown. In this view, sponsor database DB1 includes not only sponsor-specific information, but pointers to: a database of registered seller participants 08gra, an administrative database DBa, perhaps a larger database of potential vendors DBb, as well as a buyer participants database 08grb, and a rules database DBc.

Detailed Description Text (97):
A typical sponsor 06's administrative database DBa, in FIG. 1f, includes such things as templates, procedures, and charges for registering new sellers, procedures for recognizing and assigning passwords to buyers, procedures for automatic renewal, details of each sellers required banking information, and so on. Sponsor 06's vendor database DBb, might be a listing of all the potential vendors in this general market. For example, if the general market for which sponsored community CC was created is the market for power supplies for electronic equipment, then all the makers of power supplies might be included in a brief listing in this database. As a manufacturer of power supplies for this market registers with the sponsor 06, agreeing to meet all the conditions specified for inclusion by sponsor 06, it is automatically placed, by multivariate negotiations engine system 02, at the top of a list of vendors in vendor database DBb. Thus, when potential buyers are browsing through the community Website CC, they will find the registered sellers at the top of vendor database list DBb, with others listed in lower priority order.

Detailed Description Text (98):
Typical sponsor vendor database Dbb includes text, images, sound files, etc. When information from one or more of these databases is called for, the present invention pulls such associated files and graphics for display to the requestor. Typical sponsor 06 databases 225 also include demographic data about registered sellers, such as company name, title, and locations. If certificates of authenticity, customer identification numbers, or electronic signatures such as those conventionally used for non-repudiation purposes are collected, they can also be stored in a sponsor database 225. Consequently, the services available from a typical sponsor 06 using the present invention, can make production purchasing more efficient for a buyer and provide direct access to potential buyers for all registered sellers.

Detailed Description Text (103):
For example, and still in FIG. 5a, if a buyer participant 08 wishes to place a proposed order, the browser encrypts it at the browser's secure socket layer and webserver 210s decrypts the proposed order upon receipt at multivariate negotiations engine 02's site. Webserver 210s next analyzes the proposed order to understand it and formats into a request sent to database functions 222. In addition to basic read and write functions, database functions 222 shown in FIG. 5a, include operations such as search, analyze, compare, report, sort and relate (between databases.) Formatting can be as simple as "user=username" etc. A request such as "find user=username, return catalog" might be sent through IP firewall 203f. Using object-oriented techniques, the database is ordered more compactly to provide faster search capabilities. Those skilled in the art will appreciate that traditional flat file and relational or other database structures could be used as well.

Current US Cross Reference Classification (2):

L4: Entry 7 of 11 File: USPT Oct 31, 2000

US-PAT-NO: 6141653
DOCUMENT-IDENTIFIER: US 6141653 A
**** See image for Certificate of Correction ****

TITLE: System for interative, multivariate negotiations over a network

DATE-ISSUED: October 31, 2000

INVENTOR-INFORMATION:

NAME	CITY	STATE	ZIP CODE	COUNTRY
Conklin; Jeffrey	Boston	MA		
Foucher; David	Somerville	MA		
Foucher; Daniel	Bedford	MA		

ASSIGNEE-INFORMATION:

NAME	CITY	STATE	ZIP CODE	COUNTRY	TYPE CODE
TradeAccess Inc	Cambridge	MA			02

APPL-NO: 09/ 192735 [PALM]
DATE FILED: November 16, 1998

INT-CL: [07] G06 F 17/60

US-CL-ISSUED: 705/80; 705/1, 705/26
US-CL-CURRENT: 705/80; 705/1, 705/26

FIELD-OF-SEARCH: 705/80, 705/1, 705/26, 705/27, 705/39, 705/37

PRIOR-ART-DISCLOSED:

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Schmerken, Ivy, "NASDAQ Revamps to Keep Up," Wall Street Computer Review, vol. 8, No. 10, p. 35(6), Jul. 1991.

ART-UNIT: 275

PRIMARY-EXAMINER: Stamber; Eric W.

ASSISTANT-EXAMINER: Meinecke-Diaz; Susanna

ATTY-AGENT-FIRM: Stretch; Maureen

ABSTRACT:

A multivariate negotiations engine for iterative bargaining which: enables a sponsor to create and administer a community between participants such as buyers and sellers having similar interests; allows a buyer/participant to search and evaluate seller information, propose and negotiate orders and counteroffers that include all desired terms, request sample quantities, and track activity; allows a

seller/participant to use remote authoring templates to create a complete Website for immediate integration and activation in the community, to evaluate proposed buyer orders and counteroffers, and to negotiate multiple variables such as prices, terms, conditions etc., iteratively with a buyer. The system provides secure databases, search engines, and other tools for use by the sponsor, which enable the sponsor to define the terms of community participation, establish standards, help promote the visibility of participating companies, monitor activity, collect fees, and promote successes. All this is done through a multivariate negotiations engine system operated at the system provider's Internet site, thus requiring no additional software at the sponsors', or participant sellers', or buyer's sites. This also allows buyers and sellers to use and negotiate payment options and methods that are accepted internationally. The system maintains internal databases that contain the history of all transactions in each community, so that sponsors, buyers and sellers may retrieve appropriate records to document each stage of interaction and negotiation. Documents are created by the system during the negotiation process.

58 Claims, 60 Drawing figures

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Search Results - Record(s) 1 through 10 of 11 returned.

☐ 1. Document ID: US 6418415 B1

L4: Entry 1 of 11 File: USPT Jul 9, 2002

US-PAT-NO: 6418415
DOCUMENT-IDENTIFIER: US 6418415 B1
** See image for Certificate of Correction **

TITLE: System and method for aggregating multiple buyers utilizing conditional purchase offers (CPOS)

Full | Title | Citation | Front | Review | Classification | Date | Reference | ... | Claims | KWMC | Draw. D

☐ 2. Document ID: US 6363365 B1

L4: Entry 2 of 11 File: USPT Mar 26, 2002

US-PAT-NO: 6363365
DOCUMENT-IDENTIFIER: US 6363365 B1

TITLE: Mechanism for secure tendering in an open electronic network

Full | Title | Citation | Front | Review | Classification | Date | Reference | ... | Claims | KWMC | Draw. D

☐ 3. Document ID: US 6338050 B1

L4: Entry 3 of 11 File: USPT Jan 8, 2002

US-PAT-NO: 6338050
DOCUMENT-IDENTIFIER: US 6338050 B1

TITLE: System and method for providing and updating user supplied context for a negotiations system

Full | Title | Citation | Front | Review | Classification | Date | Reference | ... | Claims | KWMC | Draw. D

☐ 4. Document ID: US 6336105 B1

L4: Entry 4 of 11 File: USPT Jan 1, 2002

US-PAT-NO: 6336105
DOCUMENT-IDENTIFIER: US 6336105 B1

TITLE: System and method for representing data and providing electronic non-repudiation in a negotiations system

Full | Title | Citation | Front | Review | Classification | Date | Reference | Claims | KWIC | Drawi De

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☐ 5. Document ID: US 6332135 B1

L4: Entry 5 of 11 File: USPT Dec 18, 2001

US-PAT-NO: 6332135
DOCUMENT-IDENTIFIER: US 6332135 B1

TITLE: System and method for ordering sample quantities over a network

Full | Title | Citation | Front | Review | Classification | Date | Reference | Claims | KWIC | Drawi De

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☐ 6. Document ID: US 6323894 B1

L4: Entry 6 of 11 File: USPT Nov 27, 2001

US-PAT-NO: 6323894
DOCUMENT-IDENTIFIER: US 6323894 B1
**** See image for Certificate of Correction ****

TITLE: Commercial product routing system with video vending capability

Full | Title | Citation | Front | Review | Classification | Date | Reference | Claims | KWIC | Drawi De

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☑ 7. Document ID: US 6141653 A

L4: Entry 7 of 11 File: USPT Oct 31, 2000

US-PAT-NO: 6141653
DOCUMENT-IDENTIFIER: US 6141653 A
**** See image for Certificate of Correction ****

TITLE: System for interative, multivariate negotiations over a network

Full | Title | Citation | Front | Review | Classification | Date | Reference | Claims | KWIC | Drawi De

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☐ 8. Document ID: US 6108639 A

L4: Entry 8 of 11 File: USPT Aug 22, 2000

US-PAT-NO: 6108639
DOCUMENT-IDENTIFIER: US 6108639 A

TITLE: Conditional purchase offer (CPO) management system for collectibles

Full | Title | Citation | Front | Review | Classification | Date | Reference | Claims | KWIC | Draw. De

☐ 9. Document ID: US 5794212 A

L4: Entry 9 of 11 File: USPT Aug 11, 1998

US-PAT-NO: 5794212
DOCUMENT-IDENTIFIER: US 5794212 A

TITLE: System and method for providing more efficient communications between energy suppliers, energy purchasers and transportation providers as necessary for an efficient and non-discriminatory energy market

Full | Title | Citation | Front | Review | Classification | Date | Reference | Claims | KWIC | Draw. De

☐ 10. Document ID: US 5794207 A

L4: Entry 10 of 11 File: USPT Aug 11, 1998

US-PAT-NO: 5794207
DOCUMENT-IDENTIFIER: US 5794207 A
**** See image for Certificate of Correction ****

TITLE: Method and apparatus for a cryptographically assisted commercial network system designed to facilitate buyer-driven conditional purchase offers

Full | Title | Citation | Front | Review | Classification | Date | Reference | Claims | KWIC | Draw. De

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Terms	Documents
L3 and (potential with (seller or vendor$))	11

Display Format: TI Change Format

Previous Page Next Page Go to Doc#

DOCUMENT-IDENTIFIER: US 5758328 A
TITLE: Computerized quotation system and method

Application Filing Date (1):
19960222

Brief Summary Text (4):
Buyers in need of goods and services often spend considerable time locating an appropriate vendor. Buyers use trade publications, directories, recommendations, and other means to locate vendors. If the type of vendor needed is in a foreign country, the problem compounds. Vendors advertise through various media and by direct sales methods to make known to potential buyers what they sell and how to contact them. Once a buyer identifies a few vendors, each must be contacted to obtain product or service price and availability information. This is a time consuming process and companies typically rely on experienced purchasing staff to accomplish it. In addition, when buyers must sell surplus inventory from time to time they must advertise, cold call, sell to brokers or the like. These processes are costly and time consuming for most businesses.

Brief Summary Text (12):
The computerized system of the present invention forms a computer based communications network for processing requests for quotation for goods and/or services through at least one central processing unit with said computerized system comprising operating system software for controlling the central processing unit and storage means containing appropriate identity and other information about members of the network, means for potential buyers of product and/or services to transmit a request for quotation to said central processing unit, means for said central processing unit to selectively broadcast or make available said request for quotation to selected network vendor members, means for said vendor members to respond directly to the requesting buyer or to said central processing unit and means for transmitting or making available from said central processing unit vendor's quotations to the requesting potential buyers.

Detailed Description Text (12):
The process of the present invention begins when a buyer prepares a network compatible request for quotation (RFQ). The buyer additionally may prepare or has previously prepared a definition of the class of vendor to receive the request. The request or requests are telecommunicated to a quotation network computer and is thereafter routed to the specified class of vendors consistent with network software and vendor requirements or conditions, if any. Vendors in the defined class respond to the buyer's request for quotation and the buyer may purchase from a responding vendor. The number of vendors within the specified class will depend on the buyer's class specification. For example, a buyer who specifies vendors of volt meters in New York State will reach more vendors than if New York City alone were specified. Such class specifications are information filters through which only the desired vendors can pass. By joining the network, all vendors are potential class members no matter where in the world they are located. In addition, a vendor may choose to filter out requests for quotation for other than a vendor

defined class of requests for quotation, e.g., requests must be for at least 10,000 pieces or for goods produced by a specific manufacturer. The computerized system may also add a filter, for example, to reflect the type of service selected by the buyer and/or vendor. The network computer's filter may time sequence routing of the buyer's request based on the vendor's distance from the buyer's location. This would give vendors with the lowest shipping charges earlier access to the buyer's request and would give the buyer an opportunity to cancel further routings of its request if responses indicate that more distant vendors are not likely to provide more competitive quotes than those already received.

Current US Original Classification (1):
705/26

Current US Cross Reference Classification (1):
705/27

CLAIMS:

12. A method of purchasing goods or services over a data network comprising the steps of:

communicating, over said data network, to a filter means, at least one request for a quotation from a potential buyer of said goods or services;

filtering, at said filter means, the at least one request in order to ascertain a set of sellers potentially capable of supplying said goods or services; and

obtaining, from at least one of said potential sellers, over a data network, quotes to supply said goods or services, and forwarding said quotes to said potential buyer, wherein at least part of the quote information is stored at a location remote from said filter means.

13. The method of claim 12 further comprising the step of accepting filtering conditions from said potential buyer, and utilizing said filtering conditions in said step of filtering to determine a subset of potentially capable sellers.

15. The method of claim 12 wherein said step of obtaining comprises the step of each seller contacting said filter means at predetermined intervals and supplying bids in response to any requests for proposal that have arrived at said filtering means and that were determined, by the filter means, to be a request for proposal for goods or services which said each seller is potentially capable of supplying.

First Hit Fwd Refs
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☐ Generate Collection | Print

L4: Entry 11 of 11 File: USPT May 26, 1998

US-PAT-NO: 5758328
DOCUMENT-IDENTIFIER: US 5758328 A

TITLE: Computerized quotation system and method

DATE-ISSUED: May 26, 1998

INVENTOR-INFORMATION:

NAME	CITY	STATE	ZIP CODE	COUNTRY
Giovannoli; Joseph	Saddle River	NJ	07458	

APPL-NO: 08/ 603906 [PALM]
DATE FILED: February 22, 1996

INT-CL: [06] G06 F 7/06

US-CL-ISSUED: 705/26; 705/27
US-CL-CURRENT: 705/26; 705/27

FIELD-OF-SEARCH: 395/201, 395/226, 395/227, 395/237, 705/26, 705/27

PRIOR-ART-DISCLOSED:

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

Search Selected | Search ALL | Clear

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Author unknown, IBNL Announces Signing of More Than $8 Billion in Buying Power, Business Wire, Nov. 15, 1996.

ART-UNIT: 271

PRIMARY-EXAMINER: Cosimano; Edward R.

ASSISTANT-EXAMINER: Groutt; Phillp

ATTY-AGENT-FIRM: Kaplan; Jeffrey

ABSTRACT:

A computerized system for forming a computer based communications network of network members inclusive of network buyers and or network vendors for processing requests for quotation for goods and services through at least one central processing unit including operating system software for controlling the central processing unit, storage means containing the identification of network members, means for network buyers to generate request for quotation for goods and/or services, means for transmitting said request for quotation to said central processing unit, filter means for selecting appropriate network members to receive said request for quotation based on filter conditions defined by the buyer in said request for quotation and/or by the vendor and/or by the central processing unit, means for broadcasting said request for quotation to the network members selected by said filter means and means for responding to the generator of said request for quotation with either a response to said request for quotation or with a list of said selected network members. Filter conditions may define the class of vendors in terms of geographical location, quantity, language spoken, currency, special conditions of sale, and the like.

19 Claims, 9 Drawing figures